

FBI 011

SOVIET NAVAL DETACHMENT ENDS VISIT TO CUBA

/C

PA080019 PANAMA CITY ACAN IN SPANISH 2248 GMT 7 MAY 84

(TEXT) HAVANA, 7 MAY (EFE) -- THE SOVIET NAVY FLEET THAT HAD BEEN ANCHORED OFF THE CUBAN COASTS SINCE 26 MARCH ON AN +OFFICIAL, FRIENDLY+ VISIT HAS ENDED ITS STAY AT THE ISLAND.

THE FLEET, MADE UP OF THE ANTISUBMARINE CRUISER LENINGRAD, THE ANTISUBMARINE UDALOY, A DIESEL SUBMARINE AND A TANKER, TRAINED THE CUBAN NAVY FOR 2 AND 1/2 MONTHS.

VICE ADMIRAL FYODOR STAROZHILOV, CHIEF OF THE SOVIET NAVAL DETACHMENT, SAID THAT +AN EXCHANGE OF WORKING EXPERIENCES IN VARIOUS AREAS WAS CARRIED OUT+ DURING HIS STAY IN HAVANA.

STAROZHILOV SAID THAT COOPERATION +INCLUDED TECHNICAL AND MARITIME TRAINING OF PERSONNEL, COMBAT TRAINING AND PARTY ACTIVITIES, WITH JOINT ACTIVITIES TO COMPLETE TASKS SIMILAR TO THOSE USUALLY CARRIED OUT BY THOSE SHIPS TO ENSURE PEACE AND THE DEFENSE OF SOCIALIST GAINS.+

ADMIRAL PEDRO PERERA RUIZ, CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE CUBAN NAVY, SAID THAT +THE ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT JOINTLY WITH THE SOVIET NAVAL DETACHMENT WERE NOT DESIGNED AS A RESPONSE TO THE *OCEAN VENTURE-84* MANEUVERS BEING CARRIED OUT BY U.S. UNITS IN THE CARIBBEAN.+

THE SOVIET FLEET'S VISIT TO CUBA +WAS COORDINATED PRIOR TO OUR KNOWLEDGE OF THE DATE OF THOSE MANEUVERS, WHICH TOOK PLACE AT THE SAME TIME BY COINCIDENCE,+ PERERA SAID.

THE CUBAN ADMIRAL SAID THAT +IF THERE HAD TO BE A RESPONSE OF THIS KIND TO EVERY U.S. MANEUVER IN CENTRAL AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN, A SOVIET DETACHMENT WOULD HAVE TO BE IN CUBA PERMANENTLY.+

PERERA RUIZ EMPHASIZED THAT +IT IS A MATTER OF TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE VISIT TO CARRY OUT ACTIVITIES AS PART OF THE SUPPORTIVE AID THAT THE USSR, IN THIS CASE THE SOVIET NAVY, HAS ALWAYS GIVEN US TO REINFORCE OUR COMBAT CAPACITY AND READINESS.+

THE CHIEF OF THE SOVIET DETACHMENT SAID THAT +THE DATE OF THIS VISIT WAS ARRANGED IN JANUARY-FEBRUARY OF THIS YEAR.+